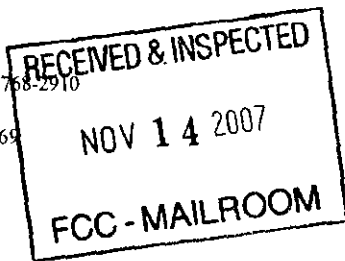


MB Docket 07-42

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. Box 2910  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910  
(512)463-0670  
Fax (512)463-1469



**MIKE KRUSEE**

CHAIRMAN, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION  
JUDICIARY

November 8, 2007

Mr. Kevin Martin  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
FCC Commissioners  
445 12th Street SW:  
Room: 8-B201  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin and Commissioners:

After receiving numerous inquiries from my constituents, I respectfully request that the Federal Communications Commission assist in resolving the current dispute between cable operators and the NFL Network. It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission could take up this issue in the coming weeks. It appears as if the only way this issue will be resolved for consumers and football fans is if an independent neutral arbitrator is appointed to bring the stakeholders together.

While it is not my desire to take sides in the dispute between the cable companies and the NFL Network, it is my desire to side with the consumers and football fans of Texas who have demonstrated a strong affinity for not only professional football, but also college football.

Nothing rates as high as NFL football season in Texas as far as television programming is concerned. Unfortunately, millions of football fans across Texas are about to be deeply disappointed when they are forced to miss eight key NFL games that will be broadcasted on the NFL Network. Unless there is a resolution between the cable companies and the NFL Network in the near future, fans across the state will either have to miss some important games, or they will have to make a switch to a different video provider, if one is available.

College fans will also miss the Insight and Texas Bowls which are also carried by the NFL Network. These two bowls have significant ties to the Big 12 Conference and Conference USA making it more than likely that one, or both, teams playing could hail from the Lonestar State. These games have provided Texas football fans with exciting outcomes in recent years. In fact, Texas Tech University staged the largest come from behind victory in college bowl history in last year's Insight Bowl.



District 52

For there to be true competitive access in cable programming, consumer demand must take precedence over corporate profits. I respectfully ask that you side with the fans and consumers on this issue and assign a neutral arbitrator to settle this dispute as soon as possible – and certainly before the first of such games are scheduled to be played at the end of this month. It is clear from the television ratings that an overwhelming number of viewers enjoy watching football games. Unfortunately, the millions of consumers and fans involved in this dispute are being held hostage while the corporate interests fight with one another. Please help put an end to this stalemate by bringing the parties together.

While I understand that primary jurisdiction on cable issues resides with the Federal Government, by copy of this letter, I am also appealing to our own Public Utility Commission to make every effort to protect the consumer as it transitions from local cable franchises to our recently enacted state-wide franchise system. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of this important consumer choice issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Krusee".

Mike Krusee

Cc: Public Utility Commissioners

MB Docket 07-42

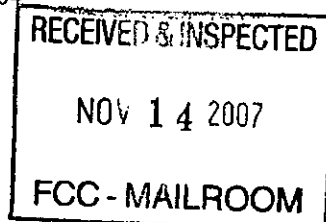


STATE OF INDIANA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

DAVE CROOKS  
1205 WINBROOK DRIVE  
WASHINGTON, IN 47501

COMMITTEES:  
COMMERCE, ENERGY AND UTILITIES, CHAIR  
TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, VICE CHAIR  
SMALL BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

October 30, 2007



Mr. Kevin Martin  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW:  
Room: 8-B201  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: NFL Network and Other Independent Programmers

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing to follow up on a number of constituent letters and emails I have received complaining that the cable systems to which they subscribe in Indiana are refusing to carry NFL Network. Many of those letters also note that those cable systems require them to purchase other sports networks -- such as Versus and the Golf Channel -- that those constituents never watch; and that my constituents are troubled by cable companies' discrimination against NFL Network and against high-quality non-sports independent channels in favor of less popular channels that the cable companies own.

I turn to you since I understand that the FCC has opened a rulemaking proceeding (MB Docket 07-42) to consider program carriage issues such as these -- particularly as they relate to independent and diverse channels.

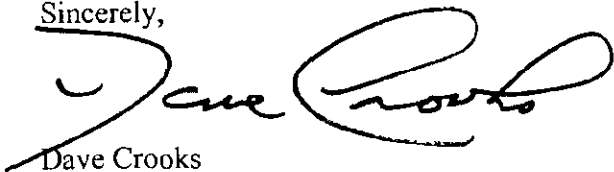
I have seen a number of recent press stories noting that -- just like NFL Network and other independent sports channels -- non-sports independent channels face discrimination from big cable companies that own channels of their own, and that some independent channels like the Oxygen Network are choosing to sell themselves to large media holding companies rather than to try to continue as stand-alone businesses. It is not a good trend since this increasing concentration will reduce media diversity and consumer choice.

I also note that in connection with another high-profile sports channel carriage dispute -- the one between Comcast and the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MASN) in the Washington, DC area in 2005 -- the FCC's decision to appoint an arbitrator to settle the dispute caused the parties to reach a negotiated solution. I would urge the FCC to consider changing its rules to facilitate appointment of an arbitrator in disputes like the one involving the NFL Network, so they can be resolved more quickly (preferably through negotiation between the parties) and with consumers' interests foremost in mind. If such a mechanism were in place, it might help persuade the cable companies to negotiate a carriage deal with NFL Network before my constituents are deprived of the NFL Network game telecasts that begin this season on Thanksgiving night.

Page 2

Thank you for reviewing these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Crooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "C" at the end.

Dave Crooks  
State Representative  
House District 63

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell